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23 December 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: AD/RR
THROUGH : Ch/E
THROUGH : Chief, D/I
FROM : Chief, I/TH

SUBJECT : I/TH's Assigned Commitment to Spend Time at NSA

1. In the course of my conversations late in November with Dr. Guthe, Dr. Guthe stated that it was not desirable to spend time at NSA unless the results were useful. I stated, and Dr. Guthe agreed, that the term "useful" should be interpreted to mean "useful to the branch."

25X1D
NSA

2. In the course of the past six months (since 1 July, 1955) three analysts in this branch have spent a total of 300 hours at NSA doing research on the [redacted] During this time these analysts have done the following work:

[redacted]

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[redacted]

7. In line with my discussions with Dr. Guthe, therefore, it is requested that our commitment to spend time at NSA in FY 56 be reduced by 675 hours. 25X1D
This is the total unused commitment of the three analysts working [redacted] NSA
25X1D
[redacted]
NSA

25X1A9a [redacted]

Attachments:
1. Copy of Report dated 5 Nov. 1954
2. Copy of Report dated 4 Jan. 1954

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(COPY)

5 November 1954

Chief, D/I

Chief, I/TH

Branch Plans for time to be spent at NSA during remainder of FY-55.

1. In order to place in perspective the assessment which follows, it is believed desirable to set forth the branch's viewpoint on the problem of intelligence research. It is the position of I/TH that:

a. The intelligence objective of any research problem should be the factor which determines the method of conducting research.

b. The allocation of research time as between various respositories of source information (e.g., Library of Congress, FDD, Industrial Register, Graphics Register, NSA, etc.) must be determined by the individual analyst, in consultation with his Branch Chief and expert staff assistants. The decision on time allocation should be based on expected returns from invested time.

c. Each repository of information must be viewed as a means to an end.

d. The research objectives of fiscal year 1955 must not be weighed too heavily in comparison with the research objectives of subsequent years.

e. The principal requisites to the exploitation of any source are: (1) knowledge of the subject about which the source is communicating and (2) knowledge of the language in which the source is communicating. When the information has been properly translated into the native tongue of the user, knowledge of the source's language recedes in importance.

f. Although we focus prime attention on the USSR, each analyst is responsible for intelligence on his commodity for the entire Soviet Bloc.

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2. In view of recent and prospective cuts at NSA [redacted] and I have undertaken a re-examination of the branch's position as stated in Chief, I/TH's memo to Acting Chief, D/I, dated 4 January 1954. We have discussed the problem with [redacted] 25X9A8 25X9A8 Chief, NSA [redacted] Chief, NSA [redacted] and 25X1A 25X9A8 NSA NSA

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[redacted] Chief, ST/S. In addition, we have briefly surveyed the files in NSA [redacted]

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[redacted]

*Including travel time.

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Special Register.

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25X1D1a [redacted] 25X1A9a

This work can be effectively done only in accordance with both subject and language competence of the individual analydt and in accordance with particular research objectives. It is proposed that [redacted] and [redacted] (the only analysts with fluent language ability) spend whatever time is indicated by their research gaps in exploiting this source. It is anticipated that this type of work will require the branch to spend at least three hours per week starting immediately and gradually increase to about six hours per week by March or April. It is further proposed that the remaining members of the branch be placed into additional language training to the fullest extent possible consistent with meeting current research commitments.

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can best be accomplished by a very substantial investment of time spent in studying and digesting published materials. This time will be supplemented by the program proposed in paragraph 4, above.

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[redacted]

ORR:D/I

[redacted]/bg 25X1A9a

5 November 1954

Approved For Release 2001/08/27 : CIA-RDP70T00666R000100040015-5

Approved For Release 2001/08/27 : CIA-RDP70T00666R000100040015-5

Next 2 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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Approved For Release 2001/08/27 : CIA-RDP70T00666R000100040015-5